



COMMUNITY WEST FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANTS TO LOCAL AGENCIES

In the current economic crisis, charities are facing some of their most challenging times and have seen increased demand for emergency assistance with fewer resources. It is in times of uncertainty that the work of nonprofits becomes even more important to the well being of our community.



Showing our commitment and concern for the growing population of those in need, the **Community West Foundation** has responded by granting **\$176,000** during our first quarter this year to help eight agencies provide basic needs such as food, shelter, and health care. Our newsletter features nonprofits who have utilized the Community West Foundation's gifts to touch our citizens in extraordinary ways.





Grantee Organizations

Serving Our Seniors

A major focus of **Neighborhood House Association** is dedicated to assisting senior citizens in Lorain County maintain their independence and quality of life by offering many programs and essential social services.

When they experienced an unexpected cut in funding that threatened to eliminate meals to hundreds of elderly, disabled, and low income clients, Community West Foundation answered the call by providing a **\$25,000** grant for the **Senior Nutrition Home Delivered Meals Program**. In addition, David T. Dombrowiak, the Community West Foundation's President and CEO, felt that this service was so essential for these seniors, that he provided a **\$5,000** grant from his Presidential Fund while waiting for the additional grant funding to be approved.

The majority of these seniors are ill, home-bound, and living only on Social Security income, and the loss of the meals would be devastating. Our grant helped to restore home delivered nutritious and delicious meals to over one-third of the seniors for one year.

We would like to share with you a portion of a letter we received from one of the seniors, Anna, who was cut off from the meal services. After learning the good news that she would continue to receive her meals uninterrupted, here is what she had to say...

I want to thank you for keeping me in the Home Delivered Meals Program. Getting meals delivered to the door by a smiling guy like Paul makes my day. Being independent makes me feel good. A well balanced meal is what we all need and that's what we seniors are getting, thanks to Neighborhood House Association.

It's inspiring to learn about stories like these, and to know that support from Community West Foundation is helping seniors remain independent, healthy, and safe, in their homes and community.



Meals being prepared for area seniors.



Home delivery helps seniors maintain their independence.



Anna is a thankful recipient of home-delivered meals.

From Homelessness to Hope... Starting on a New Path

Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry's 2100 Lakeside Men's Shelter is the largest homeless shelter in Ohio, and the demand for services has never been higher.

From 2009 to present, the shelter has seen a 16% increase from 2,939 to 3,396 men served. Included in this number is a large increase in men from the outer ring suburbs, who once held steady jobs and comfortable lifestyles, for whom the loss of jobs has spiraled into homelessness. Often these men face difficult circumstances, frustrations and complexities, in some cases struggling with mental illness or addiction to drugs and alcohol.

The **Work Experience Program** is one of the innovative efforts for the men who are ready to make a commitment to turning their lives around. Community West Foundation awarded a **\$30,000** grant to help strengthen this work program which encourages the men to develop new skills, find employment and attain self sufficiency. The men work hard to recover from homelessness, and there are triumphs and setbacks. The poor economy and lack of jobs would have lead to longer shelter stays, however innovative programming, increased partnerships, and additional resources have reduced the average length of stays. Many men work at volunteer jobs or for a stipend, in the hope that it will lead to future employment. The commitment, services, and resources at Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry truly give the men hope for a better tomorrow.

Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry's support demonstrates God's saving grace to those who had given up hope.



A Fresh Start

Just as spring represents a time of new beginnings, women and children can receive a fresh start at the **Domestic Violence Center**. The agency opened its doors over thirty years ago and is a shelter where victims of domestic violence and their children can find comfort, safety, respite, and the path to a life free from violence.

The 24-hour shelter serves 320 women and children each year, for an average length of 45 days per stay, although these are tending to be longer due to the current economic climate. While at the shelter, the women and children are fed, immediate medical needs are attended to, and plans and referrals are made to begin a journey to a more positive lifestyle.

Funding of **\$25,000** from Community West Foundation will provide assistance with **Basic Operating Needs** of the shelter and help many women receive the support, shelter, and compassion they so deserve. Although the shelter is key to the work of this agency, there are also group and other services at 55 different site locations throughout our entire community helping women gain the strength and support they need to find peace and happiness.

“The hunger for love is much more difficult to remove than the hunger for bread.”

Mother Teresa



Cornucopia Inc. expects to provide on-the-job training to over 200 disabled adults this year.

Success at Work: Transitions to Employment

In today's economy, finding a job can be extremely difficult. For people with disabilities, the barriers become even greater. To help ease this burden, **Cornucopia Inc.** provides workforce development in our local communities to help people with disabilities find employment through its community-based **Vocational Rehabilitation Training Programs.**

Community West Foundation provided grant funding of **\$25,000** to help people with disabilities prepare for employment and receive the training they need to open opportunities. This year, Cornucopia expects to provide on the job training to over 200 disabled adults, with the goal of placing 40 in full time employment.

Community West Foundation has made a series of grants over three years to Cornucopia in recognition of providing support for these important and often overlooked services for adults with disabilities.

Healthy Nutrition Program

Nueva Luz has been at the forefront of championing needs of the minority and Latino populations in Cleveland for many years. It is the only agency in our area that has a nutrition program specifically for the minority population diagnosed with HIV/AIDS.

Many of the clients are home-bound, and meals are delivered directly to their homes. In addition, the meals are culturally appropriate, which encourages eating and proper nutrition. Currently, there are 270 clients in the program, 127 of whom depend on Nueva Luz for their meals.

As the majority of clients in the program are below the federal poverty guidelines, we knew that our grant funding of **\$24,000** would improve the quality of life for these individuals. The funds will help to offset funding cuts from the county, and allow the nutrition program to continue to serve nearly 150 individuals in 2011.

Nueva Luz takes a proactive approach to address factors that contribute to the persistence of systemic poverty, and provides a number of other programs for Latino children and adults in our community.

Faith in Action

St. Paul's Community Church is ever mindful of those in our midst who need our help – the homeless, the hungry, the unemployed, the elderly, and those who are chronically ill.

Reaching out in Christian compassion to some of the city's most vulnerable neighbors, St. Paul's Drop In Center distributed 1,099 bags of food, 1,250 bags of clothing, 600 bus tickets, 1,166 hygiene kits, as well as 1,442 pairs of socks and 80 pairs of boots last year. As many of their clients are both mentally ill and homeless, they are encouraged to come to the center to have their feet examined by their parish nurse, when possible.

Community West Foundation's funding of **\$17,000** will allow St. Paul's outreach efforts to continue throughout 2011. These vital initiatives are serving local needs unconditionally with immense compassion, and St. Paul's Community Church is a true example of Christian faith in action.



St. Paul's Community Church reaches out to the city's vulnerable with Christian compassion.

Help is Here

Community Resource Services is an agency dedicated to meeting emergency needs of Avon and Avon Lake residents, although no person is ever turned away.

Many individuals and families are in need of short term assistance to help them through a difficult time. Responding to neighbors in need, Community Resource Services provides food assistance, help with rent and utilities, and information and referrals to other social service agencies.

Community Resources also offers free programs, ranging from Preparing Your Child for Kindergarten to Job Skills to Reducing Credit Card Debt.

Community West Foundation provided **\$5,000** in funding for this very helpful local resource to ensure people in economic stress have a place to turn to for help.



Protecting God's Children

Providence House is a licensed crisis nursery which provides shelter and tender care for children less than five years of age who must be removed from their homes for a period of time due to domestic violence, parental illness, or unsafe living conditions.

Each year, Providence House is able to provide shelter and support services for nearly 200 children for stays ranging from 24 hours to 60 days. The agency works closely to reunite families after the crisis has passed, and helps to obtain other services to meet the needs of the children. Our funding of **\$25,000** will help to serve six children, providing them with safety, nourishing food, and care for a six month period.

Providence House is relied upon as a caring and compassionate resource for our community's youngest and most vulnerable children.



You can support the work of these organizations by making a donation directly, or through your Donor Advised Fund at the Community West Foundation. Please contact the Community West Foundation at 216-476-7060 or visit www.communitywestfoundation.org for more information.

Special Events, Activities & Opportunities

Throughout the year, Community West Foundation sponsors spectacular spirited events to support some great causes and introduce people to our work.

Please let us know if you would like to add your name to our special events invitation mailing list. Email pat.kubene@cwfc.org or call 216-476-7060.

18th Annual Triumph for the Cure Golf Outing Monday, June 20 Westwood Country Club in Rocky River

It's time to make plans to attend the 18th annual Triumph for the Cure Golf Outing. Registration and breakfast begin at 8:00 a.m. followed by a shotgun start at 9:00 a.m. The day is wrapped up with lunch and an awards presentation. The cost is \$180 per golfer which includes 18 holes of golf, cart, goodie bag, lunch, snacks and fun!

Proceeds benefit the Breast Health Center at Cleveland Clinic Cancer Center at Fairview Hospital, Moll Pavilion.

The 16th Annual Harley-Davidson Toy Run Sunday, June 26

For the 16th consecutive year, members of the Lake Erie Harley-Davidson Owners Group in Avon organize the 15 mile ride to deliver gifts for pediatric patients at Fairview Hospital. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. with food, music and games at Lake Erie Harley-Davidson, 38401 Chester Road in Avon. The ride starts promptly at 1:00 p.m. and continues to Fairview Hospital. Staff members greet the bikers and help unload hundreds of toys that will be distributed throughout the year to young patients.

Through the generosity of all the donations from this event, every child entering the Pediatric Emergency Room and Pediatric Unit at Fairview Hospital receives a toy to make their stay a little brighter. Bring a toy or cash donation and ride for the kids!

10th Annual Drive for Life Golf Outing Tuesday, July 12 Red Tail Golf Club in Avon

This year marks the 10th anniversary of The Drive for Life Golf Outing, one of the highlights of the summer, with two fabulous flights at 8 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The \$375 single golfer fee includes golf cart, green fees, food, refreshments, giveaways, and prizes.

All morning golfers will start the day with breakfast at 7:00 a.m. and enjoy lunch and an awards ceremony after playing a round of golf. The afternoon golfers will enjoy lunch, play golf, and wrap up the day with wines & spirits, delicious hors d'oeuvres, and an awards ceremony. Proceeds benefit Cleveland Clinic Cancer Center at Fairview Hospital, Moll Pavilion.

Gift of Life Committee Sponsors a Day at the Zoo Sunday, October 9

Lions, and Tigers, and Bears, OH MY!! This year's Gift of Life Committee has planned a day of fun for the entire family at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Festivities begin at noon in the Palava Hut Pavilion with Clowns, Face Painting, Magicians, and much more!

Tickets can only be purchased in advance. Admission is \$11.00 per person ages 12 and older, and FREE for kids up to age 11 and Zoo members. Doors open at 10:00 a.m. and ticket pick up is outside the main entrance. Parking is free.

Fairview Hospital ranks among the well known birthing centers on Cleveland's west side – a distinction earned from the thousands of babies born there each year. Your participation and fundraising support will provide a SleepSack Swaddle to all babies born at Fairview Hospital to promote safe sleep.

Moonlight in the City Date to be determined

This fundraiser for Lutheran Hospital is always an elegant themed evening that features a silent auction, gourmet food stations, and dancing to the music of a live band. The theme of the event this year and the

musical entertainment will be announced in the upcoming months.

Stay tuned for more details regarding this event on our website at www.communitywestfoundation.org

The Caring Continues
Saturday, November 12
Wagner's Country Inn in Westlake

This year's annual Caring Continues event will be a "Night at the Races," full of action-packed horse racing entertainment and fun. Place your bets and come celebrate in true Kentucky Derby style with tasty buffet, mint juleps, and stylish Derby hats.

Proceeds benefit the Caring Continues Fund to assist patients receiving treatment at the Cleveland Clinic Cancer Center at Fairview Hospital, Moll Pavilion who are facing financial hardships.

11th Annual Legacy Society Dinner
Thursday, October 6
By Invitation Only
LaCentre Conference and Banquet Facility

The Foundation invites our special donors and leaders to a gala dinner celebration of philanthropy and the spirit of benevolence. The reception honors members of our esteemed Legacy Society and will feature the presentation of the 2011 "Art of Caring" Award recognizing philanthropy and outstanding citizenship.

Save the Date for the
Straight from the Heart Red-Tie Gala
Saturday, February 11, 2012

Share in the excitement of the highly anticipated 2012 Straight from the Heart Red Tie Gala. Plans for the gala are well underway and you won't want to miss this heartwarming event of fabulous food, entertainment, and special surprises. More information regarding gala and raffle ticket purchases will be posted online in forthcoming months. Be sure to stay tuned for updates.

Join the fun !



Please note, events may be subject to change if necessary. Changes will be published in forthcoming newsletters and online.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Please write to us or contact us at 216-476-7060 if you do not wish to receive materials regarding opportunities, services, programs or developments.

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Look for event information, photos, fundraising information, and ways to give online.

www.communitywestfoundation.org
216-476-7060